

REMARKS

Please reconsider the present application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering the present application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-6 were pending in the present application. By way of this reply, claims 2, 5, and 6 have been canceled, and claims 1, 3, and 4 have been amended. Thus, claims 1, 3, and 4 are currently pending. Claim 1 is independent. Claims 3 and 4 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 1.

Claim Amendments

Claims 2, 5, and 6 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1, 3, and 4 have been amended to improve clarity. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

Claim Objections

Claims 1 and 2 are objected to for not corresponding to what the applicant is disclosing. Claim 1 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Claim 2 has been canceled. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Rejection(s) Under 35 U.S.C § 112

Claims 1, 2, 4, and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. More specifically, the terms “dummy signals” and “mainly” are considered lack of clarity or being indefinite, and the term “the individual response” lacks antecedent basis.

By way of this reply, claims 2 and 6 have been canceled, and hence the rejections of these claims are moot. Claim 1 has been amended to change the term “individual response” to “sequentially received.” Claim 4 has been amended to remove the terms “dummy signals” and “mainly.” Thus, claims 1 and 4 are now definite. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1 and 4 are respectfully requested.

Rejection(s) Under 35 U.S.C § 103*Claims 1, 2, 4, and 6*

Claims 1, 2, 4, and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hara (EP 1 184 236 A2) in view of Ueda *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,924, 735). By way of this reply, claims 2 and 6 have been canceled, the rejections of which are thus moot, and claims 1 and 4 have been amended. To the extent that this rejection may still apply to amended claims 1 and 4, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention is directed to a vehicular remote control system comprising a mobile unit and a vehicle unit. Amended independent claim 1 requires, in part, the mobile unit transmit the information on reception intensities from a plurality of antennas of the vehicle unit all at once to the vehicle unit.

Hara, in contrast to the present invention, fails to teach or suggest at least transmitting the information on reception intensities from a plurality of antennas of the vehicle unit all at once to the vehicle unit. Referring to Hara, paragraph [0012], and more specifically col. 3, lines 50—52 and col. 4, lines 1—2, it is clearly stated that the portable device sends second *signals* representative of the *respective* reception intensity data of the first signals back to the stationary device. Thus, the mobile device of Hara sends the second signals sequentially and *not* all at once. Consequently, the system of Hara suffers a longer transmitting time as compared to embodiments of the present invention.

Ueda *et al.*, like Hara discussed above, also fails to teach or suggest the above-mentioned limitation, or to supply that which Hara lacks. This is also evidenced by the fact that Ueda *et al.* is relied upon by the Examiner merely to supply sequentially receiving signals.

In view of the above, Hara and Ueda *et al.*, whether considered separately or in combination, fail to teach or suggest the present invention as claimed in amended independent claim 1. Thus, amended independent claim 1 is patentable over Hara and Ueda *et al.* for at least the reasons set forth above. Dependent claim 4 is allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1 and 4 is respectfully requested.

Claims 3 and 5

Claims 3 and 5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hara and Ueda *et al.* in view of Okada (U.S. Patent No. 6,538,559). By way of this reply, claim 5 has been canceled, the rejection of which is thus moot, and independent claim 1 and dependent claim 3 have been amended. To the extent that this rejection may still apply, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed above, independent claim 1 is patentable over Hara and Ueda *et al.* Okada, like Hara and Ueda *et al.* discussed above, also fails to teach or suggest the present invention as recited in independent claim 1 or to supply that Hara and Ueda *et al.* lack. More specifically, Okada fails to teach or suggest at least transmitting the information on reception intensities from a plurality of antennas of the vehicle unit all at once to the vehicle unit. This is also evidenced by the fact that Okada was relied upon by the Examiner merely to supply the process of opening a trunk when the user approaches the trunk side of the vehicle.

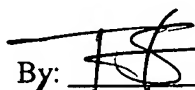
In view of the above, Hara, Ueda *et al.* and Okada, whether considered separately or in any combination, fail to teach or suggest the present invention as claimed in amended independent claim 1. Thus, amended independent claim 1 is patentable over Hara, Ueda *et al.* and Okada for at least the reasons set forth above. Dependent claim 3 is allowable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 3 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 15115.106001).

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Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments